



NEWS RELEASE

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 12, 2011

Maui County Eligible for SBA Aid for Tsunami Recovery

Honolulu – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) approved Governor Neil Abercrombie's request for its Disaster Loan Program for Maui County residents and businesses affected by the March 11, 2011 tsunami.

The declaration from the SBA allows for qualified homeowners, renters, businesses and nonprofits in Maui County and Kalawao County (Kalaupapa) to receive help through low-interest disaster loans to repair or replace materials damaged from the tsunami.

"We are working with all available resources to aid our residents and businesses affected by the tsunami and we're grateful that the federal government has agreed to help," Governor Abercrombie said. "We're still working quickly to rebuild from the damage sustained and help bring normalcy to affected residents and businesses."

Governor Abercrombie requested this amendment to the SBA Administrative Disaster Declaration based on additional damage assessments conducted by teams made up of SBA and Civil Defense employees along with American Red Cross volunteers.

Affected Maui County residents (including renters), businesses, and non-profit agencies can visit SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers on Maui at the Kihei Community Center or on Molokai at the Kilohana Community Center beginning on Wednesday, April 13, 2011, (Maui) and Thursday, April 14 (Moloka'i). Hours for the Maui center will be 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on April 13, 15, 18, and 19. Moloka'i center hours will be 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on April 14 and April 21. The SBA center in Kailua-Kona also remains open until April 21, 2011.

For more information please visit www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance or call (800)659-2955 or (800)877-8339 (TTY).

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For more information, contact: Donalyn Dela Cruz, Press Secretary, (808) 586-0012

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